

GULFPORT HARBOR, MISSISSIPPI

CONDITION OF IMPROVEMENT ON 30 SEPTEMBER 1997

Existing Project: The existing project provides for (a) a channel 38 feet deep, 300 feet wide, and about 8 miles long across Ship Island Bar, a channel 36 feet deep, 220 feet wide, and about 12 miles long through Mississippi Sound, and a stepped anchorage basin at Gulfport 32-36 feet deep, 1,120 feet wide, and 2,640 feet long, and (b) maintenance of the existing commercial small-boat harbor, about 26 acres in area, and an entrance channel, 100 feet wide and about 4,300 feet long, from deep water in Mississippi Sound to the small-boat basin, all at a depth of 8 feet. Plane of reference is mean low water. Public law 99-662 dated November 1986 authorized modification of the existing ship channel to 36 x 300 feet in Mississippi Sound, and 38 x 400 feet across the bar, with changes in the channel alignment and the entrance to the anchorage basin for safe and unrestricted navigation.

The existing project was adopted by the R. & H. Act approved 3 July 1930 (H. Doc. 692, 69th Cong., 2nd sess.), the R. & H. Act approved 30 June 1948 (H. Doc. 112, 81st Cong., 1st sess.), and the R. & H. Act approved 3 July 1958 (S. Doc. 123, 84th Cong. 2d sess.), in the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1985, P.L. 99-88 approved 15 August 1985, and Section 202 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-662 dated November 17, 1986).

Progress: Thirty foot project commenced in 1932 and completed April 1950. Deepening the project to thirty-six feet was commenced in May 1992 and was essentially completed in December 1993 - thin-layer monitoring program is continuing.

Cost of Construction: \$24,142,340 (including \$269,017 expended on previous project and excluding \$8,897,027 contributed funds).

Tidal Range: Mean, 1.75 feet; extreme, 3.5 feet.

Controlling Depth: Maintained to following depth: Ship Island Bar, 38.0 x 300 feet; Mississippi Sound Channel, 36 x 220 feet; Anchorage Basin, stepped depth 32 - 36 feet; Small-boat channel and basin, 8.0 feet.

Local Sponsor: Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport.